



Madonna Della Libera News

JANUARY 2024

120 Ninth Ave. • Brantford, Ontario • N3S 1E7
Phone 519-753-5283 • www.mdlbrantford.ca • @madonnaroar



Dear Families,

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that each of you had an enjoyable Christmas spent with family and friends. As we begin 2024, we look forward with hope and excitement to the upcoming year and what it might bring. We are filled with joy at the arrival of the Christ child and we look for ways to keep His love alive in our hearts and in our lives.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Advent Collection of Caring to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Brantford and our neighbours in need! Your generous donations will surely make a difference in the lives of others!

After the holidays, it is nice to get back to routine and structure to ensure continued success for our children. Just a reminder that report cards will be going home Monday, February 5th. This is a great time to set new goals and communicate with your child(ren) and their teacher(s) to set out strategies to meet those goals.



May God continue to bless you all with good health, happiness, and peace throughout this year!

Peter Marchand
Principal

Giovanna Oviedo-Kinrade
Vice-Principal

Important January Dates

Sub Day.....	15
Wendy's Fundraiser Night 4-8 PM.....	15
Parent Council 6-7 PM.....	17
Gr 8 Student & Parent Info Night @ ACS and SJC 6:00 PM.....	17
PA Day.....	22
Intermediate Basketball Tournament.....	26
Sub Day.....	29

Important February Dates

Term 1 Report Card.....	5
Grade 7 Confirmation Mass @ St. Mary's Parish 10 AM.....	11
Sub Day.....	12
Shrove Tuesday.....	13
Valentine's Day Celebrations.....	13
Ash Wednesday.....	14
Family Day—No School.....	19
Parent Council 6-7 PM.....	21
Pink Shirt Day.....	28

School Bell Times

Yard Supervision Begins	8:25 AM
Instructional Block	8:40 AM — 10:20 AM
First Nutrition Break	10:20 AM — 11:00 AM
Instructional Block	11:00 AM — 12:40 PM
Second Nutrition Break	12:40 PM — 1:20 PM
Instructional Block	1:20 PM — 3:00 PM
Dismissal	2:50 PM bus students
	3:00 PM all other students

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead.
 Help me live the way I should for each new day I tread.
 Give me gentle wisdom that I may help a friend.
 Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend.
 The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things,
 So that each new day is filled with joy and the happiness it brings.
 Amen.

Outdoor Supervision

A reminder that there is no supervision outside before 8:25 AM or after 3:00 PM, with the exception of bus supervision.

Kindergarten will go directly into their play area in the morning, under the supervision of staff.

All visitors are also reminded to please sign in at the office upon entering the school.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

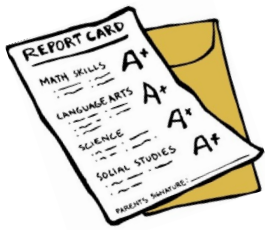
Madonna Della Libera is designated **ZONE 4**. This means if bus transportation is cancelled in Zone 4, then the school is closed for **ALL** students. There is one exception – when transportation is cancelled due to extreme cold weather which makes the operation of busses difficult and the wait times for students for the bus problematic. In this situation, schools and school facilities would remain open to staff and students.



Decisions to cancel or delay transportation will be made prior to 6:30 AM. Please check the Board website (www.bhncdsb.ca) and Twitter/X (@bhncdsb or @madonnaroar) or for information.

If your child(ren) take the bus, please visit the transportation website at www.stsbhn.ca and sign up for direct e-mail notifications of any bus delays or cancellations!

REPORT CARDS



First term report cards will be sent home with your child(ren) on **Monday, February 5, 2024**. Please take some time to review the report card with your child(ren) and comment on the third page of the report. This is a great opportunity for your child to set some goals for the remainder of the school year! Please note that

interviews were held with the progress reports in November, however, you may request a meeting with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) at any time.

COLD-WEATHER INFORMATION

Recesses will be outdoors unless outdoor temperatures fall below -20°C (including windchill) then, in accordance with Board policy & guidelines, OLOP students will have indoor recess. Please ensure that your child(ren) have appropriate clothing to enjoy our Canadian winter! Students should come to school with boots, hats, mittens/gloves and proper outerwear, such as snowpants and a winter jacket. We also encourage parents to send an extra pair of socks, pants and mittens/gloves, which can be kept in your child(ren)'s backpack or cubby, in case they get wet during outdoor recess. **Please remember to label your child(ren)'s belongings** so if they are misplaced, they can be returned to their rightful owner! Also, a reminder that students who are not well enough to play outdoors during nutritional breaks should remain at home until they feel well enough to participate in a full school day.



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS— TUESDAY, FEB. 13th

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th. This day also marks the beginning of the penitential season of Lent. To keep with the solemnity of this day, and under direction from the Board and the Diocese, we will be holding our Valentine's celebrations on **Tuesday, February 13th**. On this day, students will still be encouraged to share cards of friendship and affection and classes will still celebrate Valentine's Day in their special way. Please remember that any snacks brought in on this day **MUST** be **peanut/tree nut free** as indicated on the label (no homemade items are permitted) and, as always, we encourage healthy treats!



St. Valentine inspires us to reflect on and celebrate love. Ash Wednesday reminds us that it is the love of God that saves us. May this year, where these two important days coincide, bring us to an even deeper appreciation of the words of Saint Paul:

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." ~ 1 John 4:7

CHRISTMAS TOYS

With Christmas having passed, many students received some very special gifts from Santa and are excited to play with them and show them off. Please be reminded that students are strongly discouraged from bringing personal items (i.e., toys, "stuffedies", electronics, etc.) to school, unless directed by a teacher to do so (i.e., for "show and share", "fun Friday", etc.). These items can be a distraction to student learning as well as end up lost or damaged. If your child(ren) chooses to bring toys to school, we assume no responsibility for these items.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for 2024-2025

New Kindergarten registrations for the 2024 – 2025 school year begin this month! If you know of any other families with Kindergarten-aged children who will be attending Madonna Della Libera next year, please let them know to register as soon as possible! For Junior Kindergarten, children must be 4 years old by December 31, 2024 and for students registering in Senior Kindergarten, they must be 5 years old by December 31, 2024.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Registration for Kindergarten takes place from January 8th through February 23rd. Registration during this timeframe greatly assists the school with planning and organizing for the coming school year. **For our French Immersion program, registration MUST take place before February 23, 2024** due to limits on class sizes. Any French Immersion registrations that occur **after** February 23 will be placed on a waitlist and acceptance is not guaranteed after this date.



ONLINE
KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION
JAN 8 - FEB 23
catholiceducation.ca

 BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
Catholic District School Board

HOW DO WE REGISTER?

The Board's Kindergarten registration process is online via www.catholiceducation.ca. In order to complete the online registration there are some documents that you will need to have ready to upload. We recommend either scanning or taking an image/photo of the documents in advance of beginning the registration process.

What documents do I need?

- Birth certificate or proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent residence status (citizenship documentation, permanent resident card or record of landing).
- Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate or, if your child is not baptized, the Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate of the parent(s) or guardian(s).
- Proof of home address (e.g., a rental/lease agreement, utility bill, proof of purchase, etc.).

Where do I go to register?

- Prepare electronic copies of the required documents and visit www.catholiceducation.ca to register.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office at 519-753-5283.

A Message Provide by the Brant County Health Unit (www.bchu.org)

In Ontario, as per the [Immunization of School Pupils Act, 1990 \(ISPA\)](#), all students between the age of 4-17 must provide proof of routine childhood immunization with Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Meningitis, and Varicella (for children born in 2010 and after), or have a valid exemption, in order to attend school. This information is used to help protect students and the public in case there is a vaccine preventable disease outbreak in our community. The Health Unit is mandated to enforce ISPA and assess the immunization status of children in accordance with the [Immunization for Children in Schools and Licensed Child Care Settings Protocol, 2018](#).

Each year, the Brant County Health Unit assesses the immunization records of students around the age of 7 and the age of 17 to ensure students are compliant with immunization requirements. Students who fail to provide proof of immunization, or a valid exemption, may be suspended from school for up to 20 school days.

This year (2023-2024 school year) the focused cohorts are the following birth years: 2006, 2007, 2014, 2015, and 2016. The suspension period for elementary students will begin in March 2024.

You can report immunizations in the following ways:



Online:

www.bchu.org/emunization

Note: use the Ontario Immunization Identification Number on the front page.



In Person:

194 Terrace Hill St., Brantford
Mon to Fri, 8:30am - 4:30pm

*Afterhours drop box outside main entrance



Email:

immunizationintake@bchu.org

Note: privacy of personal health information submitted by email cannot be guaranteed and should be done at your own risk



Phone:

519-753-4937 ext. 451



Mail:

194 Terrace Hill St.,
Brantford, ON N3R 1G7



Fax:

519-753-2140

JOIN US FOR OUR
FUNDRAISING NIGHT AT



Wendy's

SUPPORTING:

**MDL's Camp Celtic Trip
for Grade 7/8 Students**

WHEN: Monday January 15th from 4-8 PM

WHERE: Wendy's 78 Icomm Drive, Brantford

**DOING SOMETHING GOOD
HAS NEVER TASTED BETTER!**



**15% of all sales
will be donated to
MDL!**

Remember to say you're from MDL